**Are books more important than experience?**

We gain our knowledge about the world and our life from two sources: from

experience and from books. These two resources are both important, but which

of them is more important?

Knowledge from books forms a very important part of our knowledge structure.

In schools and colleges, we learn knowledge that is fundamental to our future

career. We learn knowledge from books in order to make our contributions to

this society in the future. A student learns mathematic equations and other

scientific knowledge and become a scientist or engineer. We will be illiterate

and ignorant without learning knowledge from books. Moreover, we acquire

knowledge about life and the world by reading books, magazines and

newspapers. This is also very important, as we cannot experience everything all

by ourselves. Therefore books are a very important source of knowledge.

On the other hand, we cannot learn everything from books. "Experience is the

best teacher" is an old cliche but I agree with it. The most important, and

sometimes the hardest lessons we learn in life come from our participation in

situations. We learn how to get along with others or how to gain self-respect

from our experience, not from books. We cannot learn emotional feelings, such

as love and care, through books; they come from our real life experience.

Knowledge from experience is also a very important supplement to knowledge

from books.

Needless to say both learning sources, books and experience, are very

important to us. But in my opinion knowledge from experience is more

important, because without knowledge from experience, it is impossible to get

a real understanding of knowledge from books, and how to apply this

knowledge to real world situations.